

ALBERTA NEWSLETTER

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA



HON. A. J. HOOKE, Minister

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Pembina Pipeline Links Oilfield With Pipelines to East and West

Alberta's rich Pembina oilfield is now connected with eastern and western crude oil markets with the completion of the 72-mile long Pembina pipeline.

Officially opened by Premier E. C. Manning in November, the pipeline had been under construction since July. The main line is designed to carry 115,000 barrels a day while the addition of a booster station could increase this capacity to 150,000 barrels a day.

The gathering system when it is completed in 1955 will be one of the largest unitized gathering systems ever built. It will cover an area of approximately 375 square miles and will include about 325 miles of pipe. Present indications are that it will serve about 275 lease batteries and gather oil from about 3500 oil wells.

The pipeline and gathering system will link the Pembina oilfield, most promising of the new Alberta fields, with the Edmonton terminals of the Inter-provincial Pipeline that carries Alberta crude to eastern Canada and the Trans Mountain Pipeline that serves the West Coast area of Canada as well as a new refinery at Ferndale, Washington, U.S.A.

The purpose of the ALBERTA NEWSLETTER is to provide up-to-date information about development and opportunities in Alberta.

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Bonnie Glen Absorption Plant Goes Into Operation

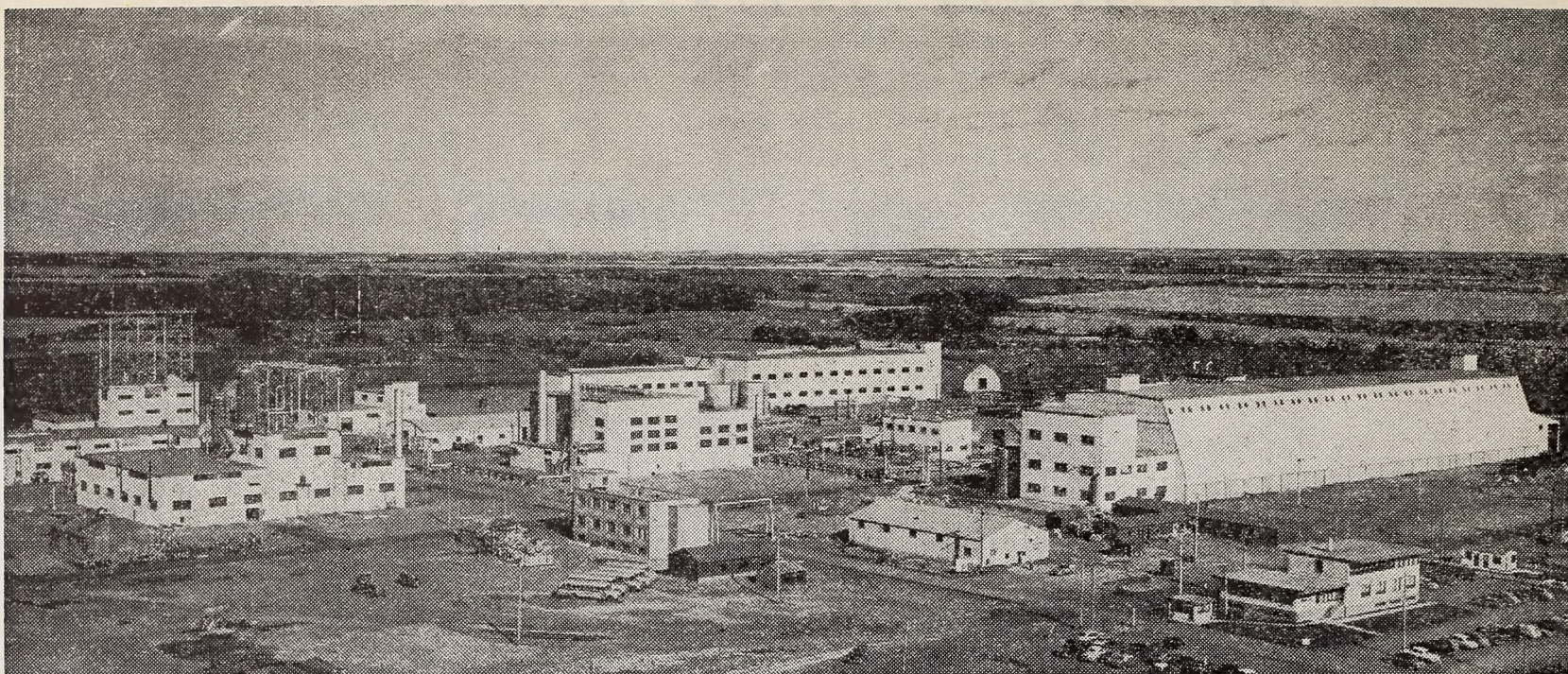
Initial processing of natural gas was started at the Bonnie Glen gas absorption plant early in December by Texaco Exploration Company.

The plant, which cost an estimated \$7,000,000, is located 23 miles west of Millet, and built by Brown & Root Ltd. of Edmonton. It is designed to process 20,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas a day, producing natural gasoline, propane and butane. The natural gas is obtained from the Wizard Lake, Bonnie Glen and Pigeon Lake fields and is processed by the absorption plant before being transported by pipeline for commercial fuel consumption.

As further development takes place in the Wizard Lake area, Texaco is adding new pipelines to handle the crude oil production. Following the discovery of the Wizard Lake field in May, 1951, and the Bonnie Glen field in January, 1952, Texaco became one of the most active companies in the area.

To handle the steadily increasing production of crude oil, Texaco built an eight-inch pipeline 40 miles from Wizard Lake to Edmonton in 1951. Development of the Bonnie Glen field resulted in this line being extended 18 miles to handle the increased flow. It was connected with the refineries of McColl-Frontenac and British American, and the terminals of the Trans-Mountain and Interprovincial pipelines.

The discovery of numerous new wells during 1952 and 1953 resulted in the construction of an additional pipeline in the autumn of 1953, when the existing line was looped with a 16-inch line. This raised the capacity of the two lines to 75,000 barrels a day. Eventual capacity for this pipeline will be about 170,000 barrels daily.



An aerial view of the Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd. refinery is shown above. The large building with tapering walls at right foreground is the ammonium sulphate production and storage unit; the concentrate leaching plant is the large flat-roofed building located behind the ammonium sulphate building. *(Alberta Government Photo)*

Sherritt-Gordon Nickel Refinery Located at Fort Saskatchewan

The first large metallurgical plant established in Alberta is the nickel refinery of Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited.

The \$24,000,000 refinery was built on the 800-acre site slightly to the east of Fort Saskatchewan. Construction was finished in the summer of 1954 and the first shipments of nickel went to the United States in the fall. Sherritt Gordon's annual metal production goal is 17,000,000 pounds of nickel, 300,000 pounds of cobalt, 70,000 tons of ammonium sulphate fertilizer, and 9,000,000 pounds of copper. Most of the copper will be obtained from copper concentrates separated at Lynn Lake and, for the present, sent to a copper smelter for metal recovery.

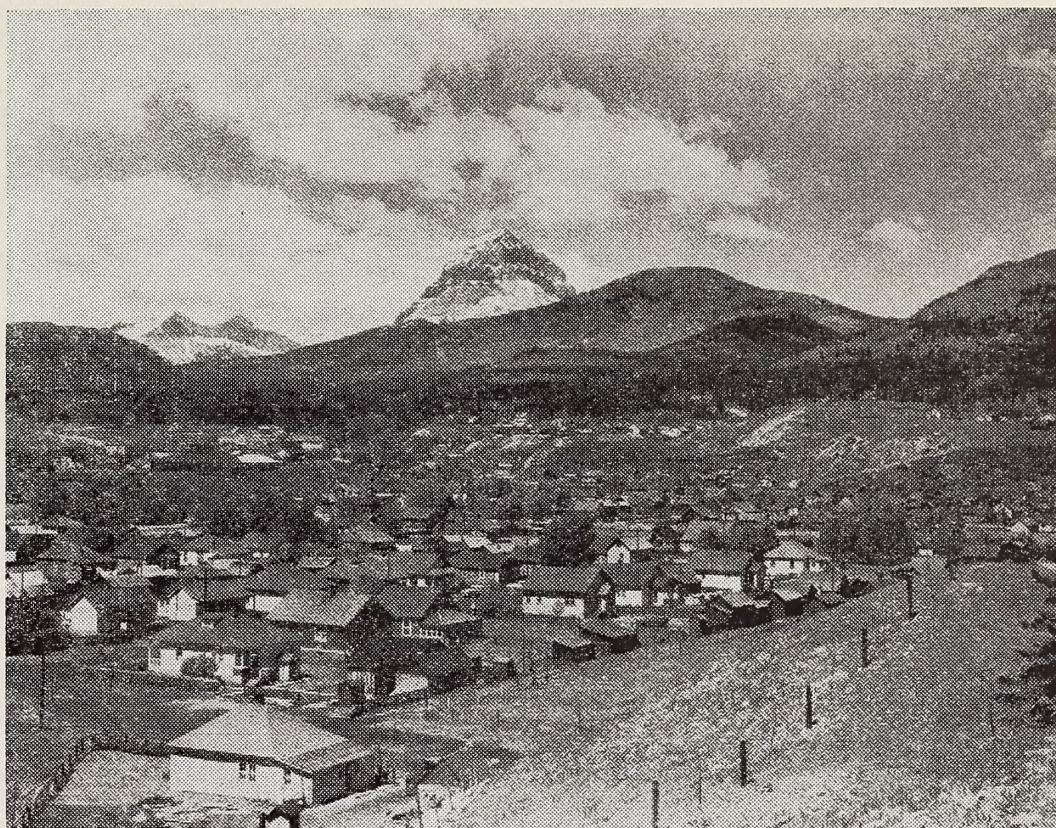
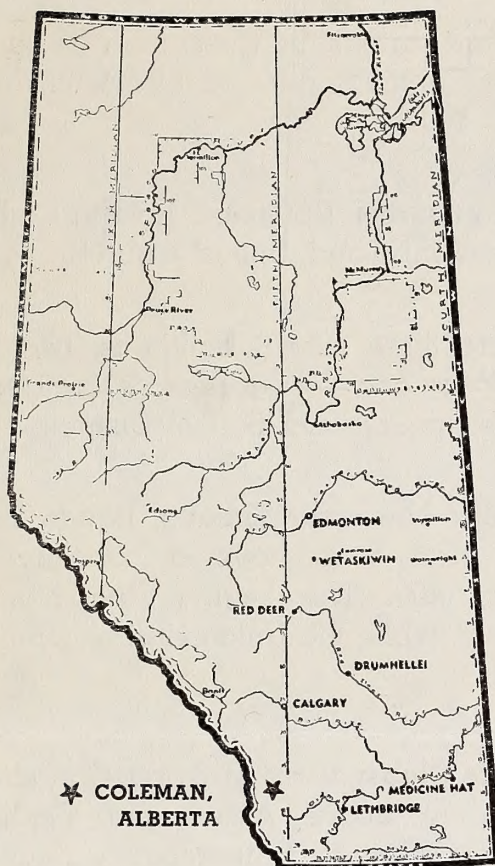
Main reason for the company's decision to locate its refinery at Fort Saskatchewan was the availability of cheap natural gas to provide ammonia for the leaching process that was adopted to make the recovery of nickel from the company's mine at Lynn Lake, Manitoba, a more efficient operation. Approximately 8,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas a day are needed for the plant's operation and this fuel is supplied by Mid-Western Industrial Gas Limited from wells near the plant.

Proximity to water and a small town that would expand to accommodate employees, were other considerations. The pumping station has a capacity of 1200 gallons of water a minute but presently

pumps about 800 gallons a minute from the nearby North Saskatchewan River. Since the refinery provides its own water treatment, police and fire protection, service roads, and some of its own power, the services of a large city were not required; Fort Saskatchewan, with C.N.R. railway facilities, reasonable land rates, and low taxation, provided an ideal location. Most of the plant's 350 employees eventually will live at Fort Saskatchewan in new homes built and financed through the employee's own arrangements.

The Fort Saskatchewan operation is part of an approximately \$50,000,000 project backed by American and Canadian capital. From the Sherritt Gordon Mine at Lynn Lake, Manitoba, nickel-copper ores are mined and concentrated, the copper concentrates going, for the present, to a copper smelter, and the nickel concentrates being transported by Canadian National Railways almost 900 miles to Fort Saskatchewan for refining to nickel metal.

The ammonia leaching process that is used at the Alberta refinery was developed by Sherritt Gordon's metallurgical research division at Ottawa. A small pilot plant, faithful in every detail to the proposed refinery, was operated at Ottawa from April to September, 1953, and successfully treated Lynn Lake nickel concentrate. In addition, the miniature refining operation provided training for the key personnel now stationed at Fort Saskatchewan.



(Alberta Government Photo)

TOWN OF COLEMAN

Location: In the Crowsnest Pass 94 miles west from Lethbridge on Highway No. 3. On the Lethbridge-Crowsnest-Nelson-Vancouver line of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Altitude: 4,310 feet.

Temperature: Average summer, 55 degrees; average winter, 29 degrees; average annual, 40 degrees.

Rainfall: Average annual rainfall, 13.31; average annual snowfall, 67 inches; average annual total precipitation, 20.01 inches.

Geology: The Kootenay and Blairmore foundations of the Lower Cretaceous Age form bedrock. Both formations are a series of sandstones and shale beds but the Kootenay at this location is a coal-bearing horizon.

Soil: There is one square mile of black soil. The rest has not been surveyed but is believed to be gray wooded.

History: Coleman was established in 1903 on McGillivray Hill, when the International Coal and Coke Company of Spokane, Washington, began developing the Denison coal property at Coleman. The townsite was surveyed and lots offered for sale the first year, with the Coleman Hotel completed in time for Christmas celebrations. In 1904, A.C. Flumerfelt, president of the coal company, named the townsite Coleman after his youngest daughter.

The hamlet was made a village in 1904 and incorporated as a town in October, 1910. Alex Cameron was the first mayor.

Living Conditions: Coleman is a mining town, lying near a magnificent landmark, Crowsnest Mountain, and adjacent to a vast mountainous area where game and fish abound. The population is polygot, with Polish, British, Italians and Germans represented.

Administration: The town is governed by a mayor elected for a two-year term, and six councillors, two elected each year for a three-year term. A secretary-treasurer administers the town's affairs in accordance with council policy.

Laws and Regulations: There are two town constables, one working part-time, and a R.C.M.P. detachment at Blairmore, four miles east of Coleman. Electrical and sanitary installations must conform to provincial regulations. There is a zoning and building bylaw.

Fire Protection: There is a 16-man volunteer fire brigade and a fire truck, 4000 feet of hose, a 35-foot extension ladder, several portable fire extinguishers, and other equipment such as axes and smoke masks.

Tax Structure: 1954 assessment was \$142,435 for land and \$1,009,075 for improvements. Business assessment was \$98,580, making a total assessment of \$1,226,240. The 1954 mill rate was 39 mills.

Area: Total town area is 193 acres, of which streets, lanes and highways occupy 33.3 acres. There are four miles of streets and roads and three miles of lanes and alleys.

Power: Three phase 60-cycle power is supplied by the East Kootenay Power Company to Coleman Collieries, who sell it to Coleman. The residential rate is \$2.50 for 20 kwh and 1½c per kwh for over 20 with 30c discount for prompt payment. The commercial rate is 10c per kwh for the first 50 kwh of installation and 5c per kwh for the next 150 kwh of installation. Over 200 kwh of installation, the charge is 2¼c per kwh with 10 percent discount for prompt payment.

Water: Water is obtained from gravity through a 450,000 gallon capacity storage dam on Nez Perce Creek. Monthly water rates are \$1.60 for a three-room house, \$2 for a five-room house, and \$2.80 for a house of more than five rooms.

Fuel: Coal and Propane.

Resources: Coal, limestone, sand, gravel, poultry products.

Health Services: Crowsnest Hospital, located midway between Blairmore and Coleman, has 72 beds and 10 bassinets. A detachment of the St. John's Ambulance Association is on duty at each mine. There are two doctors and one dentist.

Transportation: Canadian Pacific Railway operate one train daily from Lethbridge and one train daily from Cranbrook, B.C. Two buses run each way once a day between Macleod and Fernie via Coleman, and a local bus provides 90-minute service between Hillcrest and Coleman. There are three taxi cabs, and a daily trucking service between Calgary, Lethbridge and Coleman.

Communications: Canadian Pacific Telegraphs, Alberta Government Telephones, a post office, and The Coleman Journal Newspaper.

Financial Facilities: Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Hotels and Tourist Camps: There are three hotels, the Grand Union, Coleman and Empire, all with Licensed Premises. Rates vary from \$1.50 to \$2.00. The Grand Union has 42 rooms, the Coleman, 32, and the Empire 21. Chinook Cabins are located in Coleman with

eight first class cabins at rates from \$6.00 to \$8.50. Glacier Cabins has four cabins with rates from \$4.00 to \$9.00.

Churches: Anglican, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army and United Church.

Schools: There are three school buildings, two for grades 1-8 and one for grades 9-12. These schools make up Coleman School District.

Theatres and Halls: The Roxy Theatre, Italian Hall and I.O.O.F Hall each have a capacity of approximately 400. The Legion Hall has a capacity of 100, while the Union Hall accommodates 300.

Lodges and Service Clubs: Board of Trade, Canadian Legion, Coleman Sports Association, Curling Club, Pee Wee, Junior and Intermediate Hockey Clubs, Lions, Tennis Club, Mine Rescue Association, St. John's Ambulance Association, Alberta Teachers' Association, Rod and Gun Club, Choral Society, Masons, Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the Royal Purple, I.O.O.F. Rebekahs, Elks, United Mine Workers of America.

Population: 1961 (1951 census).

Industrial Development: There are excellent limestone deposits nine miles west of Coleman. Some of these deposits are being worked by the Summit Lime Works Ltd. Industrial sites adjacent to trackage and water are available and serviced by main highways. Declining employment in the coal mines assures a large supply of labour.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON
COLEMAN, WRITE:

Town Clerk,
Town of Coleman, Alberta

or

Director of Industrial Development,
Legislative Building,
Edmonton, Alberta